

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

It is bad enough to have Fox Network "spin" a one sided inaccurate picture of a good loyal man, Kerry, who served. This is especially concerning with a President who was AWOL and a Vice President who hid under his wife's skirt to avoid Nam. As a retired Captain (O6) whose son is on active duty, I find the Sinclair action to be un-American and unconscionable. This is an excellent example of "compassionate" neo-conservatism which is, based on the propaganda being spawned by the "wrong" wing is starting to emulate fascism.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.